

Amusements.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—2 and 8—The Old Homestead.  
AMERICAN THEATRE—2 and 8—The Teller. Enfant.  
BROADWAY THEATRE—2 and 8—A Broom Monkey.  
CANTON—2 and 8—The Young of the Year.  
CARTON—2 and 8—The Young of the Year.  
DAILY THEATRE—2 and 8—Lottery of Love.  
DOCKSTADERS—2 and 8—Minerva.  
EDEN MUSIC—House Tabernacle.  
GRAND OPERA HOUSE—2 and 8—Thatcher Primrose.  
West.  
HARRISON'S PARK THEATRE—2 and 8—The Lorgnette.  
LYCEUM THEATRE—2 and 8—Sweet Lavender.  
MADISON SQUARE THEATRE—2 and 8—Capt. Swift.  
NIBLO'S—2 and 8—Turned Up.  
PALMER'S THEATRE—2 and 8—Mrs. Potter.  
STAR THEATRE—2 and 8—Annie Pickle.  
STANDARD THEATRE—2 and 8—Miss Emerald.  
THE GRAND MUSEUM—10 a. m. to 10 p. m.  
THEATRE—2 and 8—Julius Caesar.  
14TH STREET THEATRE—2 and 8—A Tin Soldier.  
OTHAYNE AND 19TH ST.—Gettysburg.

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BRANCH OFFICES OF THE TRIBUNE.  
Advertisements for publication in the Tribune, and orders for regular delivery of the daily paper, will be received at the following branch offices in New York:  
Branch Office, 128 Broadway, 9 a. m. to 9 p. m.  
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the expenses will be so large that generous private subscriptions will be required.

A LAW-BREAKER.

The Governor of West Virginia, being a Democrat of the sort which THE TRIBUNE without hesitation calls disloyal, sets an example that his political friends may well hope their opponents will never see fit to follow. According to dispatches, he gives certificates of election to two Democratic members of Congress-elect whose seats are contested by Republicans, and refuses to give certificates to two Republican members of Congress-elect whose seats are contested by Democrats. If the dispatches do not misrepresent the matter, these four persons, two of each party, were elected on the face of the returns, and in accordance with decisions of the courts in the various cases, but the Governor constituted himself a returning board, and declined to respect the returns when they indicated the election of his opponents. It is not intended to do the Democratic Governor any injustice, and every good citizen will hope that facts or provisions of law not yet made known may afford some color of justification for his conduct, for if it be correctly reported, it is simply a case of naked and impudent law-breaking.

The Governor who breaks the law sets a dangerous example to his people and to other Governors. It is of all forms of disloyalty one of the most pernicious, and this particular Democrat could much more easily be forgiven past conduct as a whipped rebel than present conduct as a defier of the statutes he has sworn to obey and enforce. There may be found some process by which even the instrument of West Virginia bandits can be made to feel that a civilized Nation condemns him. Public opinion may not count for much, it is true, to an official who owes his political existence to such violators of law as have been operating in West Virginia, but he may perhaps be reached nevertheless, if Federal courts or Congress take cognizance of his behavior.

The question which will at once be suggested to every mind is whether our form of self-government could continue to exist at all, if other Governors were also law-breakers, as this person appears to be. What would be our form of government, if, after the people had voted in Ohio or any other State, the Governor should calmly proceed to give or withhold certificates as he might please? How would it be if Republican Governors in Illinois, Michigan or California should act on the same plan? The principle could be carried only a shade further. It would next become a political necessity for State Canvassers to refuse to give a certificate of election to a Governor of adverse politics, on some pretext of legal informality; a political necessity for a Republican Legislature to count in Republican candidates every time, and to count out Democrats; and so it would presently come to pass that voting would be a miserable farce and waste of time.

Only one thing saves this Nation from anarchy—the respect of decent citizens for law. If the Governor of West Virginia has put aside law in order to serve his party, he is astonishingly foolish in this case, for there is a Republican majority to organize the House without either of the members from West Virginia, but that does not make him a decent man. It does not make his conduct less disgraceful or less disloyal. In that case this particular Democrat will be considered, by every respectable citizen of any party, a person incomparably more guilty and more dangerous to civilized society than any of the thieves, murderers, bandits and other criminals who are hunted by the law.

THE NATIONAL GUARD.

The dispute between two regiments of the National Guard over their respective claims to a site informally selected for a new Army and to priority in the possession of a new regimental home provided by the taxpayers of this city is unfortunate from more than one point of view. We alluded yesterday to a prevalent feeling that the 9th Regiment had been subjected to state the case mildly and without offence to anybody—to an indifference on the part of those empowered to deal with its demands quite sufficient to account for the irritation which its members feel. This fact, however, does not absolve them from the duty of apportioning the blame with great caution, of avoiding the display of untimely resentment, and of otherwise maintaining that delicate sense of a soldier's honor which it is easy to lose and hard to restore. This community has been educated to look upon its citizen soldiery as an institution and not a toy. Our regiments are expected to furnish a full equivalent for the money expended on them. Everybody hopes that the occasion for their active employment may never arise, and it certainly does not require a call to arms to demonstrate their value. The people believe that the National Guard is a guarantee of public order, and the resulting sense of security is an adequate recompense for liberal outlays.

And certainly the outlays have been liberal. Several of the regiments are already quartered in splendid buildings erected upon costly sites, and hitherto there has been no apparent inclination on the part of the taxpayers to complain of past expenditures, or protest against a continuation of the same generosity. This public appreciation practically manifested is perfectly proper and in every way commendable, but, at the same time, we do not hesitate to say that it is, under all the circumstances, somewhat surprising. New-York is frightfully misgoverned and pillaged by the conscienceless spendthrifts whom it places in power, and a majority of the people seem to be aware of the fact every day in the year except Election Day. They live under a galling sense of being cheated, of paying for the possession of many rights which they never get and the abolition of many wrongs which they continually suffer. They wince under the heavy burden of taxation, and scrutinize the list of appropriations with unforgiving eyes. And yet we do not remember a single harsh or contemptuous criticism of the policy which is providing new armories without regard to anything except the comfort and efficiency of the soldiers. Moreover, this friendly and hospitable attitude is the more striking when the fact is recalled that it is many years since the regiments were required to serve the city or State in action, and that not since the railway riots of 1877 has there been any specific reason to apprehend that this city might be about to need their protection. They must be associated in the minds of many unreflecting persons merely with social and ornamental functions, and yet, even from these we hear no word of protest or criticism.

THE TRIBUNE rejoices that so just an estimate of the value of the National Guard to the community should prompt the people to so generous a support. We cordially uphold the arguments in its behalf at which we have hinted, and we believe, furthermore, that one of the most important returns which it makes may be recognized, though not accurately measured, in the vigor, sobriety, self-respect and public spirit of its members. Holding this opinion, we should consider it a mistake if anything should occur to diminish the popular approval which it now enjoys and de-

serves. Any effusion of politics into the National Guard, or even the least suspicion that it is being manipulated for partisan purposes, will certainly be followed by a loss of public interest and confidence. But more than this, the people expect the various regiments and the individuals who compose them to preserve the reputation and the morale of the whole force by the scrupulous avoidance of all jealousy, bitterness and recrimination, and by the zealous cultivation of loyalty and selflessness.

THE RETIRING MAYOR.

It is said that Mayor Hewitt showed some emotion in a Board meeting the other day upon an expression of appreciation from his colleagues, and remarked that this was almost the only official recognition of his efforts that he had received. If we are to infer from this that the Mayor feels that the sincerity of his labors for the public good has not been thoroughly appreciated by the people of New-York, we believe that he does them injustice and deprives himself of a large share of his reward. We believe that he is universally respected as a Mayor who has proved his earnest desire to do something to lighten the burden of misgovernment in this sadly misgoverned town, and who has yielded to the politicians less often, perhaps, than any other man would have done, who was surrounded by the influences that have at times embarrassed Mr. Hewitt.

The Mayor has never developed the qualities of a leader and organizer. It was a lack of these that have deprived him of much of the influence with his party in Congress, to which his great ability and extensive acquirements entitled him; and the same experience has been repeated to a large extent in the Mayor's chair. Mr. Hewitt is honest, faithful and patriotic; but the peculiarities of his temperament seem to make it difficult for him to cooperate with others. When this has been said, and when it has been added that some of the politicians have had more influence with him than his antecedents would have led us to expect, about all has been said against his administration that can possibly be alleged. We are confident that in these, its closing days, the thoughts of many good citizens turn to him with a grateful appreciation of his unselfish devotion to the public interests, and the willingness with which he has sacrificed time and health to serve the people. He has erred at times, no doubt; but to err is human, and Mr. Hewitt will not deny that he is a very human sort of a man. We could wish that he might have accepted the banquet proposed in his honor by a number of leading citizens. It would have taken form as such a demonstration of approval and esteem as would have convinced him that the people of New-York are not unmindful of what he has done and tried to do.

If his successor shall conduct himself so as to leave behind him an equal reputation for application to duty, courage and independence, he will succeed beyond the expectations of many of his constituents. Any Democratic Mayor elected by the Democratic machines will need to do very well indeed to obscure the recollection of Mr. Hewitt's administration. In fact, we do not look to see it excelled until the day when a Republican Mayor shall be elected—a day toward which THE TRIBUNE will continue to strive, and which is coming. But until that blessed consummation shall be reached, Mr. Hewitt will probably be able to felicitate himself upon having given this city the best Democratic administration it has ever known; and as he goes back now to private life, he will carry with him the sincere respect and warm personal liking of the people of New-York, without distinction of party.

THE STORY OF A ROOM.

An article in "Harper's Weekly," which is frankly devoted to the exploitation of the town of Wichita, Kan., tells an interesting and characteristic story of a boom. We grow so used to the miracles of growth and development which occur in the West, that we cease to appreciate the fact that they are something more than commonplace happenings. That a town which had only 70 inhabitants in 1870 should now have nearly 40,000, with two colleges housed in handsome buildings, a beautiful theatre, a daily newspaper printed on a perfect press from stereotype plates, and all the other characteristics of a highly civilized community, would be regarded in any other quarter of the world as a development amazing beyond belief. But in the American Commonwealth, which is growing, as a young lad does, so fast that it hardly knows itself, we have to be told that such things are coming to pass within our own borders.

Perhaps the most interesting phase in the history of this boom is connected with the influence exerted by a newspaper, and its peculiar effect. It should be understood, to begin with, that for a time Wichita had the reputation of being one of the worst places in Kansas, and was not unjustly treated in this respect. The next station was known on the railroad as "the first station beyond perdition." In 1882, only six years ago, the systematic effort to build up the place and improve its character began. This was led by Marshall M. Murdock, Editor of "The Wichita Eagle," who, in order to make it clear beyond dispute that his efforts were disinterested, refrained from investing a single penny in land, leaving his only share in the increased prosperity of the town to be derived through his newspaper. He sacrificed the opportunity to make a large fortune, but as an inevitable consequence secured an almost unbounded influence for his paper. Its word was law in local affairs. The people respected it because they knew that no selfish or corrupt motive lurked beneath any of its utterances. The popular trust and confidence in it were shown in a singular way. It had been from the outset the organ of the boom. It had carried to the Central and Eastern States accounts of the natural advantages of Wichita that had attracted large numbers of investors. But the time arrived when the editor became convinced that a danger point had been reached. Prices were beginning to lose their heads. Prices were reaching a dizzy figure. A few months more, and there would have been an orgy of speculation, such as other towns have passed through, followed doubtless by a crushing reaction and a long stagnation.

Then it was that the newspaper dictator, for such he is represented as being, rendered his unique service. His paper appeared one day with an article that carried consternation among the real estate speculators, many of whom were his personal friends. It declared that the boom must end. It did end, and it was soon seen that it was well to have it end. The growth of the town went on even more rapidly than before, but it was a solid growth. The places of the speculators were taken by investors, manufacturers and merchants, bringing real business with them, and often a great deal of it. Four years ago, when the boom was under full headway, the town had no more than 12,000 people, and now, when it is a thing of the past, it has nearly 40,000, the present rate of increase being apparently nearly 10,000 a year.

There is an obvious lesson in this for new towns, where the boom continually booms up his boom. It is that a city is not built up by

the transfer of corner lots, but by a genuine growth in commerce and manufactures, and by a development of the arts of civilization. These are not hastened, but rather retarded by these speculative deliriums, which must come to an end, and which, unless checked in time, will surely leave a legacy of exhaustion and depression behind.

A GREAT DISCOVERY.

Several members of the illustrious fraternity of professional carmen, and among them William Ross, have lately given to the world their individual views on the subject of rowing. A slight unpleasantness has already arisen between two of our esteemed contemporaries over the question of exclusive or joint ownership in this aquatic production, and we hasten to call the attention of our readers to the fact that it is not to be found elsewhere in our columns. But with all due concessions and acknowledgments to the real or supposed owner or owners, we venture merely to point out the circumstance that Mr. Ross has evolved a new theory of longevity which ought to engage the immediate attention of the medical profession. The new Brunswick (not New Jersey) carman is an enthusiastic advocate of the dry rub as opposed to the ordinary domestic wash-tub. And not only this, but he has likewise conceived a rooted aversion to the sponge and wash-bowl as a daily or even semi-weekly adjunct of the athlete's toilet. By way of making apparent to the meek intelligence the tremendous importance of his discovery, he decorates his own most sacred emotions by invading the hallowed precincts of his grandiose bedchamber, and exposing to the ruthless gaze of the world that venerable gentleman in the act of dressing. "I have a grand-father in New-Brunswick nearly a hundred years old," writes Mr. Ross, "and he has never seen a bath-tub."

It is a far cry from New-Brunswick to New-York, and we may never behold in the flesh this patriarchal object lesson. But we do not mourn as those without hope, for the grandson gives us to understand that it is his intention also to round out a century of existence under similar conditions. Mr. Ross has ranked the ear to his own glory and profit these many years, but even he has occasionally encountered defeat. We incline to the belief that these rare misfortunes have been due to his unworthy trifling with a great principle. In a moment of inadvertence he concedes that a bath every week or ten days might prove comparatively harmless, and he must have tried the rash experiment upon himself before consenting to make such an admission public. But he can be sure that he would not now have been the hero of a long and unbroken series of dazzling victories if he had adhered without the minutest deviation to the immortal theory and practice of the dry rub?

The Health Board of this city has authority to see that all cars used for the transportation of passengers in New-York are provided with the means of securing good ventilation. There, unfortunately, its authority ends. If it could compel good ventilation as well as good ventilators, the public would have reason to rejoice. Attention is directed to this matter by the fact that the conductor of a street-car, on a recent cold day, gave his passengers more ventilation than they cared for. Ordinarily the complaints are of too little fresh air rather than too much.

It may be unnecessary, but still it can do no harm to remind Governor Hill that the Republican Legislature will shortly have its eye on him.

Civil Service Commissioner Edgerton with unnecessary warmth replies to the report that he described the reform of the Civil Service as a "sham" and a "fraud." He insists that he said this or anything like it. He insists that the reform is beneficent and wholesome. If Mr. Edgerton did call the reform a sham, it is of no consequence. If he says it is a good thing, it is of no consequence. The important thing for the people to have in mind is that Mr. Edgerton, who is a sham reformer, a choice embodiment of the spoils principle, was appointed to execute a reform law to which his entire career was hostile. He was the Democratic President's idea of the sort of man who should be selected to establish the reform, and as such he has served a useful purpose. He has proved the falsity of the Democracy's vicious pretensions. Mr. Edgerton's views interest nobody. He derives his only importance as a reflector through which light has been thrown upon the Administration.

"South Dakota people," says "The Minneapolis Tribune," "talk of nothing but Statehood." Let them be patient a little while longer, and they will be satisfied. The days when a Territory's clear right of admission is denied for political reasons are about over.

According to the report in "The Sun," President Howell said in regard to the recent accident on the Bridge railroad that the investigation would be strictly private and the result would not be given to the press. Does Mr. James Howell imagine himself an autocrat, and does he think that he is living in Russia? The Bridge is a public institution, and the public consequently has a right to know all about it. When accidents happen on the elevated railroads, people are often sorely vexed because the officials are so close-mouthed. In a sense, to be sure, they have a right to maintain secrecy regarding their operations. Not so with the Bridge authorities. Mr. Howell's position is without the least justification. Take off the bolts and bars. Let us have no Star Chamber proceedings in relation to public affairs.

Electricity as a street-car motor is a society for the prevention of cruelty to animals all by itself. A boy was killed by a hot-ball car in Brooklyn on Christmas Day. Why do not the Brooklyn authorities abolish these dangerous nuisances? The Aldermen in this city have set them a good example. The car-stove and the hot-ball car may wisely be allowed to die together.

PERSONAL.

Mr. H. P. Cheatham, who has been elected to Congress from the 11th North Carolina District, was born in slavery. Clusert, the Communist out-throat whom the electors of the Var have chosen to disgrace them in the French House of Representatives, is sixty-five years old; tall and well built, in spite of his notorious gluttony and drunkenness.

"I drank," says P. T. Barnum, "more or less intoxicating liquors from 1837 till 1847. The last four of these years I was in England, and there the habit and my appetite for liquor grew so strong from month to month that I discarded it if continued it would certainly ruin my run. With a tremendous effort and a most determined resolution I broke the habit square off, and resolved never to practise it again. I have religiously kept that resolution for more than forty years. Had I not done so, I should have been in my grave a quarter of a century ago, for my health had already begun to be affected by alcohol. I was so delighted with my own escape that I travelled thousands of miles at my own expense and gave hundreds of free temperance lectures in every State between Maine and Wisconsin, besides Missouri, Kentucky, Louisiana and California. I have gladly expended thousands of dollars for temperance. I have built numerous houses for moderate drinking workmen on condition that who would become teetotalers, and they subsequently paid for the houses with the money and extra strength gained thereby. With this record, and the recognition of Mr. Barnum as a natural, a staunch, a Republican and an earnest opponent of the 'Third Party Prohibition' movement, we are confident that if it came to a vote before the late Presidential election, 'I was a teetotaler' would be a strong and powerful slogan."

Representative Russell, of Worcester, Mass., was much pleased with the West during his recent political tour that he will go with his wife to the Pacific coast as soon as Congress adjourns, next March, and spend the summer there.

The Persian Minister, Hadji Hassen Ghoully Khan, is now well settled at Washington. When a "Star" reporter of that city called the other day, the Minister himself opened the door. "I am, Sir, Minister," he said, "and you are a reporter. It is below the medium height, and has a long, pleasant face, sparkling black eyes. His black hair is sprinkled with white upon the temples, and on the top of his

head he wore a black fez. His black trousers had broad stripes of scarlet, and his black coat was a modified Prince Albert. The body of the coat had its lapels faced with scarlet, and the skirt was drawn upon it with considerable fullness. The Minister's valet, a smiling youth dressed in the same manner as his master, served cups of strong, sweetened tea to callers, which no one would refuse or dream of drinking to the dregs. The Minister is studying English, and his days are engaged in mastering the mysteries of this small volume, seeing his callers, and playing the piano. Then he writes a letter to his Government, and takes a walk in the afternoon, and he is much flattered by the attentions paid him upon the street by the children, who call out to him as he passes by. He is the Persian Minister. He will not be joined here by his family, who are in Persia, for the reason that he expects to return to Teheran in a year, and he is a very young man, and has a young daughter of whose vocal powers he is especially proud. He is a courteous, pleasant, and a very agreeable man. His manner and conversation proclaim his dignity of caste, and he is withal a most agreeable and valuable addition to that comfortable company of men of all nations, termed the diplomatic corps.

Kossuth relates in his "Memoirs of Kossuth" that the Duchess of Sutherland—whose death was recently recorded—was at one time very enthusiastic about the Hungarian cause, and did a great deal for many of the Magyar refugees in London after 1849. She even took lessons in the Hungarian language, and succeeded within a short time in speaking that idiom remarkably well. Once in 1850 while still Marchioness of Sutherland, she was invited to the Court of St. James, and there she met the Hungarian nobleman, Countess H—, whom she addressed as the Magyar Countess. The Countess replied that she was educated in Vienna, and could not speak her own native language. To which the Marchioness replied, "I was educated in London, and I can speak the language of your brave nation," and turned her back to the unpatriotic Countess H—.

THE TALK OF THE DAY.

It is hard for the clergy to please everybody nowadays. A Boston woman complains that her pastor never looks at her when he preaches, but devotes all his attention to the sinners on the other side of the church. For this reason she says that his sermons do not have the moral effect on her which they ought to have. On the other hand, a Chicago woman recently complained that her pastor invariably looked at her when he was preaching, especially when he denoted sinners and hypocrites, and she would know if it wasn't an outrage. In this way, when the clergyman finally heard of her grievance he laughingly explained that he wasn't looking at the woman at all when she thought he was, but at a certain pillar behind her, the sight of which, for some mysterious reason, always seemed to clarify his thought.

The Presbyterian Hospital, admirable as it is, gives in its annual reports statistics as to the relief of the patients treated, or otherwise, so as to improve the hospital, and to make it more efficient. The St. Paul Hospital, an equally admirable institution, does better than this—it proves that the patients' religious or forms of religion. Its statistics may refer to the nationalities of its patients, who are, for the most part, foreigners, but it is systematically silent as to religion—Jewish Messenger.

Miss Kate Field denies a recent report that she has been engaged by California vine-makers to act as a "taster" for their wines in the East.

A Parallel Case.—Miss De Spies-No, it is not true that Tennyson is a Spiritualist; that is a mistake; but he seems to have been in London, and he can't be in London at the same time, and he is systematically silent as to religion—Jewish Messenger.

Several young ladies of Mount Vernon, among them a few Normal College graduates who have no taste for school-teaching, recently concluded to organize a debating society for mental training, as well as winter-evening pastime, and appointed an evening to debate the question: "Is life worth living without a beau?" As none of the "dear girls" could be persuaded to take the affirmative debate was deferred, and it was agreed to extend the limit of age to married women to forty years. The question of debate will be taken up when a few more members are added.

The Wrong Preparation.—"Well, my boy," he asked cheerfully at the breakfast table the morning after Cholly had taken the important leap, "how did things go last evening? Did you have a good time?" "No," said Cholly, faintly, pushing away a breakfast roll. "She smiled at it."—Somerset Journal.

A cigarette smoker makes this suggestion to cigarette manufacturers: "Among cigarette consumers the chief trouble is keeping on hand a large stock of cigarettes. The manufacturer who includes a little box of matches in each package of cigarettes will catch the trade. In buildings where the electric light is used and matches are scarce, the brand will find to the exclusion of all others."

"You would be sorry to lose your sister, wouldn't you, Johnnie?" asked the visitor suggestively to the little boy who was entertaining him in the drawing-room.

"None," replied Johnnie. "I guess I could stand it. My mother says I'm a good boy, and I'm a good boy after I'm married."—(Kinderhook Rough Notes).